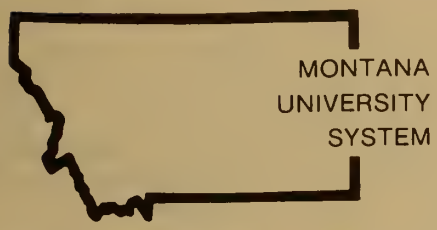
Eastern Montana College • Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology • Montana State University

Western Montana College • Northern Montana College • University of Montana

STATE DOCUMENTS



NEWSLETTER

from the Office of Executive Secretary

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JUN 27 1974

BUDGETS -- The Board of Regents passed a "minimum support" budget for the six Units of the Montana University System at their December meeting. The 1974 support level would be $37,308,112 and would provide a $1,321,323 increase over the current year. The 1975 level would increase by $1,255,853 and provide $38,563,965. The percentage increases are 3.5% and 3.4% respectively. The Presidents of the six units expressed serious concerns about the Regents' support level in that rising fixed costs of operation would absorb nearly all new dollars provided and any increase in staff salaries would have to be funded through staff reductions.

NATIONAL -- Montana is not unique in its trend of declining enrollments at its colleges and universities. From all parts of the country individual public institutions, and even entire state systems, are reporting that their enrollments are down this year, many for the first time in a generation. The annual survey by the U.S. Office of Education's National Center for Educational Statistics found that state colleges and universities, excluding two-year institutions, increased their enrollment by only 1% as compared to growths up to 13% in the early 60's. Enrollments dropped at state universities in 20 states: Alaska, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, West Virginia and Wyoming. Still more revealing were the survey's data on freshman enrollments. There were 4.5% fewer freshmen in the state universities this fall and 1.9% in the public four-year colleges. These declines have worsened the institution's financial problems, not only because of tuition drops, but state subsidies are often based on enrollment formulas. One of the hardest-hit systems is Minnesota's. There the seven state colleges, which expect a decline of 5,382 students from 1971, must cut back their faculties by 167 next fall, a two-year decrease of nearly 15 per cent.

PROGRAMS -- Ten students, who will be admitted to the University of Washington Medical School, will begin their first year medical school training on the Montana State University Campus this fall. Screening of applicants is now in process and only Montana men and women are being considered for admission to the Montana WAMI program. After studying at MSU for one academic quarter, the ten students will join the rest of their class at the U of W. WAMI was developed in answer to the need for practicing physicians in the rural areas of Washington, Alaska, Montana and Idaho and MSU is the fourth university to participate in this phase of the WAMI program. ***** Artifacts discovered last summer by University of Montana archaeological survey teams in Treasure and Big Horn counties are being studied at UM to determine their historical value. The archaeological surveys are part of an extensive program sponsored by Burlington Northern in eastern Montana to preserve valuable sites which might otherwise be damaged or destroyed during the railway construction. ***** Montana Tech is one of eight academic institutions participating in the Mineral Engineering Student Exchange Program coordinated by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). Students who are residents of Alaska, Arizona, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming are eligible to take part in this program which allows them to apply for admission at any of the member institutions at resident or in-state tuition costs. *****

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930 East Lyndale Avenue
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PROGRAMS (cont.) -- The achievement of two primary goals--maintaining an effective teacher-placement service and retaining graduates in Montana--highlights the 1972 progress report of Western Montana College. Of the college's 183 graduates, 117 are in teaching positions of which 94% are in Montana. This is in contract to 1968 and 1969 when 30% chose out-of-state jobs.

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The departments of Agricultural Education and Industrial Arts at Montana State University have merged into one, now called the Department of Agricultural and Industrial Education. Dr. Max Amberson heads the department. ***** A short course in artifical insemination technique has been instituted at MSU. The course is coordinated with the licensing responsibility of the Montana Livestock Sanitary Board and is offered twice a year.

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PERSONNEL -- The University of Montana has received a report from the Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Dept. of HEW, citing 10 specific deficiencies and detailing recommendations for improvement in the area of employment practices. The report is the result of a visit by HEW personnel last August that was iniated by a class action complaint alleging sex discrimination at the University. The HEW team will conduct a follow-up visit in February, at which time the University will present a revised Affirmative Action Plan.

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To meet dropping enrollment trends and threatened budget tightening, the administration at Northern Montana College has already undertaken to adjust faculty staffing, to review study programs offered, and to canvass new avenues of public service. As the first and most drastic step, ten instructional staff members have been notified that their contracts likely will not be renewed after the end of the current academic year. Replacements are not planned for an additional six retiring or resigning staff members. *****

Leo Smith, 68, former registrar and faculty member at the University of Montana for 24 years, died in Missoula Dec. 5. Smith retired from his position as registrar and professor in June 1970.

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Veteran staff members at Northern Montana College retiring at the end of the 1972 calendar year included Dr. Duane R. Taft, professor of education and Director of Off-Campus Education, and Earl V. Weiser, associate professor of English and journalism and Director of Public Information and Research. *****

"Know Your Schools--Public Education in Montana," a 263-page volume authored by Prof. C. R. Anderson of Western Montana College, is achieving a strong sales record in bookstores throughout Montana. Published last summer, the book covers educational organization, administration, and financing from pre-territorial days to the present.

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A U.S. patent has been awarded to Wilfred McLeod, Assistant professor of Petroleum Engineering at Montana Tech, and his associate, Paul Gassett of Gulf Research and Development Co., for their design of an off-shore terminal. Dr. McLeod has previously received a patent involving the use of radio tracers for simultaneously measuring phase velocities of multi-phase streams.

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STUDENTS -- The State Board of Education annually awards scholarships to graduates of Montana high schools who have outstanding academic records. These scholarships exempt payment of registration and incidental fees at any unit of the Montana University System. Of the 485 scholarships issued for the fall quarter of 1972, the students used them as follows:

MSU	264	54%
U of M	157	32%
EMC	26	5%
MCMST	16	3%
NMC	14	3%
WMC	8	2%

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The 1972 MSU yearbook, the "Montanan", has been named one of five outstanding college annuals in graphic arts by the Lithographers and Printers National Association. Editor was Larry Thompson from Great Falls.

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MSU's soil judging team took second place at the American Society of Agronomy soils contest held at Brigham Young University, thus qualifying for national competition to be held in April.

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A recent check of the Montana University System's six Units reveals that over 25% of the 23,000 student population is receiving aid from three federal and state financial aid programs--Work Study, National Direct Student Loans or Educational Opportunity Grants. Edward W. Nelson, executive secretary of the MUS describes these programs as absolutely vital to Montana's structure of higher education. Without this financial help, a majority of our finest high school graduates would be deprived of college careers. Western Montana College lists 35% of its total student body under the three financial aid programs; Montana Tech and Northern estimate 25% participation and the University of Montana at Missoula, Montana State at Bozeman and Eastern Montana at Billings place their figures in the 20% bracket.

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Ten students from the University of Montana, Montana State University, Carroll College and Eastern Montana College have been chosen as legislative interns to the 1973 State Legislature. The program, funded by the legislature, the school and private funds, enables the students to earn academic credit while working on an individual basis with a state senator or representative.

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Western Montana College students have instituted two programs to serve smaller schools and communities of Montana. Art students have assembled the finest of their classroom works into a traveling exhibit which has elicited high praise from students and staff wherever shown. This show has increased public awareness of the expanding role which creative arts commands in the educational structure and spurred cultural instincts among countless young Montanans. The exhibit is loaned for two-week display periods and may be secured by contacting Prof. Corr at Western. In another program, the 17-member Western Montana Chorale and its director, Prof. Leon Dillingham, have been combining concerts with clinics for high school choruses. The clinics include an introduction to new sounds for the high schoolers, combined rehearsals with the collegiate singers and joining with the chorale in a combined concert.

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A student expenditure study recently completed at Eastern Montana College revealed some interesting facts about EMC students. Average age is 22.5 years; 70% are single; 57% of the students are employed during the academic year, averaging 24.4 hours per week; 45% receive financial help from parents; 25% borrow money to finance their education; 41% rent a private home or apartment; 25% live with parents, 19% live in residence halls; 9% own homes and 5% live in a mobile home. Average nine-month academic year expenditure, including supplies, books, registration and student fees, is $3479.

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All four Frontier Conference members of the Montana University System, Eastern, Western, Northern and Montana Tech, voted this fall in favor of continuing student financial support for athletics by maintaing or increasing student fees. Rocky Mountain an Carroll Colleges, private college members, also voted in favor of maintaining or increasing student athletic fees. Overall, 70% of the students voting favored continued funding.

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Twenty-seven Montana State University School of Nursing students assisted in the evacuation of 160 aged and infirm patients during the fire which partially destroyed three buildings at the Warm Springs State Hospital. The MSU student nurses are assigned to the State Hospital to get experience in psychiatric nursing. Dr. Stanley Rogers, Superintendent of the hospital, considered the work of the MSU students a major factor in saving the lives of some of the patients endangered by the fire.

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Mark S. Peppler, a senior in chemistry at the University of Montana, has been selected to receive a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University, Oxford, England. Peppler, from Whitefish Bay, Wisc., becomes the University's 19th Rhodes Scholar since the award was established in 1904.

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Architecture students at Montana State University ranked eighth nationally in the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards' Examination. They competed with graduates from all schools of architecture in this country and three territories.

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FACILITIES -- Construction of Phase I of the University of Montana Library, including the ground floor, two underground floors and a shell for the upper two floors, will be completed this spring. Occupancy of the three completed floors will take place in early summer.

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The Harry Adams Field House at UM has re-opened after extensive remodeling. New facilities include eight handball courts, an indoor tennis court, wrestling and weightlifting rooms, an indoor four-lane track, a gymnasium with mats, trampoline and volleyball courts. The seating capacity has been increased to 9,329.

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Construction is currently underway on the classroom-laboratory building at the Montana Tech campus. It is the first such structure to be built in nearly 20 years. Projected completion date is Fall 1973 and the building will house the Departments of Mining Engineering and Geological Engineering, offices of the Deans of Students and Academic Affairs.

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Leon Johnson Hall, an 8-story structure housing laboratories, offices and classrooms has been completed at Montana State University. Two floors were left unfinished due to lack of funds.

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The Museum of the Rockies has re-opened in a new building located south of the MSU campus. The museum is operated by the University, but is financed by donations.

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The recently completed Special Education building on the Eastern Montana College campus brings together under one roof the Montana Center for Handicapped Children, the Division of Special Education and Guidance, an Instructional Materials Center and a variety of classrooms designed for training personnel in special education and rehabilitation counseling. The Center served more than 350 handicapped children from all parts of the state last year.

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CALENDAR

Jan. 28 - EMC - John Denver Concert, 8:15 P.E. Bldg.
Feb. 5 - Tech - Classes begin, 2nd Sem.
Feb. 7 - MSU - Vincent Price, Lecturer 8:00, Student Union Ballroom
Feb. 9-10 - NMC - Homecoming
Feb. 14 - EMC - Kaigh Alx Dhiegh, Lecturer 8:15, Library
March 1 - UM - Chet Huntley, 8:15, University Center Ballroom
March 1 - MSU - Dick Gregory, Lecturer 8:00, Student Union Ballroom
March 26 - Spring Quarter Classes begin - UM, MSU, EMC, WMC and NMC

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